

Re: Petition 04-160  
To the FCC:

I write to urge you to reject the attempt by the NAB to block the availability of local traffic or weather reporting via satellite radio.

I used to be a local broadcaster, working in radio and television news. My wife still works in TV news. I know from my experience that competition is the only real market force that provides improvements for broadcast consumers.

I have XM radios in my car and my wife's car. Traffic and weather reporting on dedicated XM channels provides a unique service that is not currently provided by local broadcasters.

While there is no substitute for locally produced news and information about our community, I believe the free market should dictate how service is provided and supported. Therefore, the FCC should allow satellite broadcasters to provide innovative services.

Ray Gilmer